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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

PATDOCTC@fr.com

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/827,496

Applicant(s)

PRADHAN ET AL.

Examiner

OMAR ABDUL-ALI

Art Unit

2178

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 24 September 2008.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 37-68 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SG/US)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

The following action is in response to the response filed September 24, 2008. New claims 37-68 are pending and have been considered below.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 37-68 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Farry et al. (US 6,069,628) in view of Kitami (US 5,668,962) and further in view of Schindler (US 6,466,241).

Claims 37 and 47: Farry discloses a method and system of using a temporary favorite-link providing that a panel previously displayed on a graphical user interface is displayed again, comprising:

a. displaying a selected panel on a graphical user interface (column 2, lines 15-27);

Farry discloses receiving while the selected panel is being displayed, a first user input to create a user selectable command for displaying the selected panel (column 2, lines 15-27/Figure 8D). Specifically, Farry discloses creating key shortcuts (user selectable command) for application programs, and displaying windows(panels) for a

particular application program in response to entry of the first key representation. Farry also discloses a menu that includes the user selectable commands to present application programs. However, Farry does not explicitly disclose the user selectable command comprises a temporary favorite-link bookmark the user selectable command thereafter being associated with a favorite-link menu such that the menu contains the user-selectable command when displayed. Kitami discloses a similar system for selectable commands for displaying user interface panels that further discloses loading windows through selection from a menu on the display (column 4, lines 10-17). The user may use the mouse as a mode of window selection through a menu. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to include a temporary favorite-link bookmark in Farry. One would have been motivated to include a temporary favorite-link bookmark in order to increase operator efficiency.

Farry does not explicitly disclose receiving a second user input upon a first selection of the user-selectable command in the favorite-link menu, the second user input requesting that the selected panel be displayed. Kitami discloses a similar system for selectable commands for displaying user interface panels that further discloses loading windows through selection from a menu on the display (column 4, lines 10-17). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to receive a second user input upon a first selection of the user selectable command in the menu, the second user input requesting that the selected panel be displayed in Farry. One would have been motivated to receive a second user

input upon a first selection of the user selectable command in order to easily manage the windows for multiple applications in Farry.

Neither reference explicitly discloses the user selectable command ceases to be associated with the favorite-link menu in response to a predetermined event comprising that the favorite-link menu contains a certain number of user-selectable commands after the first user-selectable command is created, such that the favorite-link menu when displayed does not contain the first user-selectable command. However, Farry discloses changing window identifiers, including a delete command (column 13, lines 24-40/figure 8A) and Kitami discloses deleting the identifier of a relevant window from a window identifier list when the user selects a deletion mode (column 4, lines 59-67). Schindler discloses a similar system and method for selectable commands that further discloses a user may set a maximum number of favorite shortcuts to be displayed in an array, and deleting a previously created shortcut when a new shortcut is desired (column 22, lines 35-45). It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to delete an identifier of an item after reaching a maximum threshold. It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art to combine this teaching with the teaching of Farry modified by Kitami in order to remove a user selectable command from a menu upon display of an interface panel or application window. One would have been motivated to provide this limitation in order to preserve screen real estate.

Claim 38: Farry, Kitami, and Schindler disclose a method and system for selectable commands for displaying user interface panels as in Claim 37 above, and Farry further discloses the favorite-link menu is not continuously displayed on the graphical user interface, and wherein a user can cause the favorite-link menu to be displayed by selecting an input control for the menu (column 8, lines 44-47).

Claim 39: Farry, Kitami, and Schindler disclose a method and system for selectable commands for displaying user interface panels as in Claim 38 above. While neither reference explicitly disclosed the user selectable command ceasing to be associated with the favorite-link menu is noticeable to the user at a first time the favorite-link menu is displayed after the second user input is received, it would have been obvious to one having skill in the art at the time the invention was made to do so. One would have been motivated to make the user selectable command visible at a first time the menu is displayed after the second user input is received in order to enable the user to view the command that corresponds to the desired panel.

Claim 40: Farry, Kitami, and Schindler disclose a method and system for selectable commands for displaying user interface panels as in Claim 37 above. While neither reference explicitly disclosed the application program is being executed when the first user input is received and thereafter closed before the second user input is received, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to do so. Additionally, no patentable weight is given to the order in which the

application programs are closed. One would have been motivated to close the application program before the second user input is received to free screen space.

Claims 41, 48, 52, 59, and 66: Farry, Kitami, and Schindler disclose a method and system for selectable commands for displaying user interface panels as in Claim 37 above, and Farry further discloses a plurality of user selectable commands is associated with the menu such that the menu contains the plurality of user-selectable commands when displayed (column 12, lines 49-58).

Claims 46, 50, 54, 64 and 68: Farry, Kitami, and Schindler disclose a method and system for selectable commands for displaying user interface panels as in Claims 41 and 48 above and Schindler further discloses a second user selectable command of the plurality of user selectable commands is not temporary and does not cease to be associated with the menu upon user selection, such that the menu continues to contain the at least one of the plurality of user-selectable commands when displayed also after the user selection (column 7, lines 20-38). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to do so in Farry. One would have been motivated to include this feature in order to enable the user to keep track of the selectable commands associated with specific panels of interest.

Claim 51: Farry discloses a method and system for selectable commands for displaying user interface panels further comprising creating key shortcuts (user selectable

command) for application programs, and displaying windows(panels) for a particular application program in response to entry of the first key representation (column 2, lines 15-27/Figure 8D). Farry also discloses a menu that includes the user selectable commands to present application programs. However, Farry does not explicitly disclose the user selectable command comprises a temporary favorite-link bookmark. Kitami discloses a similar system for selectable commands for displaying user interface panels that further discloses loading windows through selection from a menu on the display (column 4, lines 10-17). The user may use the mouse as a mode of window selection through a menu. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to include a temporary favorite-link bookmark in Farry. One would have been motivated to include a temporary favorite-link bookmark in order to increase operator efficiency.

Neither reference explicitly discloses the user selectable command ceases to be associated with the favorite-link menu in response to a predetermined event comprising that the favorite-link menu contains a certain number of user-selectable commands after the first user-selectable command is created, such that the favorite-link menu when displayed does not contain the first user-selectable command. However, Farry discloses changing window identifiers, including a delete command (column 13, lines 24-40/figure 8A) and Kitami discloses deleting the identifier of a relevant window from a window identifier list when the user selects a deletion mode (column 4, lines 59-67). Schindler discloses a similar system and method for selectable commands that further discloses a user may set a maximum number of favorite shortcuts to be displayed in an

array, and deleting a previously created shortcut when a new shortcut is desired (column 22, lines 35-45). It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to delete an identifier of an item after reaching a maximum threshold. It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art to combine this teaching with the teaching of Farry modified by Kitami in order to remove a user selectable command from a menu upon display of an interface panel or application window. One would have been motivated to provide this limitation in order to preserve screen real estate.

Claims 55 and 65: Farry discloses a method and system for using a temporary favorite-link bookmark providing that a panel previously displayed on a graphical user interface can be displayed again, the method comprising:

a. displaying a selected panel on a graphical user interface (column 2, lines 15-27);

Farry discloses receiving while the selected panel is being displayed, a first user input to create a user selectable command for displaying the selected panel (column 2, lines 15-27/Figure 8D). Specifically, Farry discloses creating key shortcuts (user selectable command) for application programs, and displaying windows(panels) for a particular application program in response to entry of the first key representation. Farry also discloses a menu that includes the user selectable commands to present application programs. However, Farry does not explicitly disclose the user selectable command comprises a temporary favorite-link and thereafter being associated with a

favorite-link menu such that the menu contains the user-selectable command when displayed. Kitami discloses a similar system for selectable commands for displaying user interface panels that further discloses loading windows through selection from a menu on the display (column 4, lines 10-17). The user may use the mouse as a mode of window selection through a menu. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to include a temporary favorite-link bookmark in Farry. One would have been motivated to include a temporary favorite-link bookmark in order to increase operator efficiency.

Neither reference explicitly discloses determining a number of user-selectable commands that can be contained in a favorite-link menu or ceasing the association of the user selectable command with the menu in response to a determination that the favorite link menu contains the number of user selectable commands, such that the favorite-link menu when displayed does not contain the first user-selectable command is created. However, Farry discloses changing window identifiers, including a delete command (column 13, lines 24-40/figure 8A) and Kitami discloses deleting the identifier of a relevant window from a window identifier list when the user selects a deletion mode (column 4, lines 59-67). Schindler discloses a similar system and method for selectable commands that further discloses a user may set a maximum number of favorite shortcuts to be displayed in an array, and deleting a previously created shortcut when a new shortcut is desired (column 22, lines 35-45). It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to delete an identifier of an item after reaching a maximum threshold. It would have been obvious to one

having ordinary skill in the art to combine this teaching with the teaching of Farry modified by Kitami in order to remove a user selectable command from a menu upon display of an interface panel or application window. One would have been motivated to provide this limitation in order to preserve screen real estate.

Schindler further discloses not ceasing the association of the user-selectable command with the favorite-link menu in response to a determination that the favorite link-menu does not contain the number of user-selectable commands, such that the favorite link menu when displayed contains the first user-selectable command (column 22, lines 35-45). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to do so in Farry. One would have been motivated to include this feature in order to enable the user to keep track of the selectable commands associated with specific panels of interest.

Claim 56: Farry, Kitami, and Schindler disclose a method and system for selectable commands for displaying user interface panels as in Claim 55 above, and Farry further discloses the menu is not continuously displayed on the graphical user interface, and wherein a user can cause the menu to be displayed by selecting an input control for the menu (column 8, lines 44-47).

Claim 57: Farry, Kitami, and Schindler disclose a method and system for selectable commands for displaying user interface panels as in Claim 56 above. While neither reference explicitly disclosed the user selectable command ceasing to be displayed in

the favorite-link menu is noticeable to the user at a first time the favorite-link menu is displayed after the second user input is received, it would have been obvious to one having skill in the art at the time the invention was made to do so. One would have been motivated to make the user selectable command visible at a first time the menu is displayed after the second user input is received in order to enable the user to view the command that corresponds to the desired panel.

Claim 58: Farry, Kitami, and Schindler disclose a method and system for selectable commands for displaying user interface panels as in Claim 55 above. While neither reference explicitly disclosed the application program is being executed when the first user input is received and thereafter closed before the second user input is received, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to do so. Additionally, no patentable weight is given to the order in which the application programs are closed. One would have been motivated to close the application program before the second user input is received to free screen space.

3. Claims 42, 49, 53, 60, and 67 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Farry et al. (US 6,069,628) in view of Kitami (US 5,668,962) and further in view of Schindler (US 6,466,241) and further in view of Bates et al. (US 6,100,890).

Claims 42, 49, 53, 60, and 67: Farry, Kitami, and Schindler disclose a method and system for selectable commands for displaying user interface panels as in Claim 41 above however the references do not explicitly disclose a second user selectable command of the plurality of user selectable commands is configured to cease to be associated with the favorite-link menu in response to the passage of a predetermined amount of time, such that the favorite-link menu when displayed does not contain the second user-selectable command. Bates discloses a similar method that further discloses automatically removing bookmarks that are displayed in a menu after a predetermined time set by the user (figure 9B). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to cease to associate a user selectable command with a favorite-link menu in response to a passage of time in Farry. One would have been motivated to include this feature in order to conserve screen real estate.

4. Claims 43 and 61 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Farry et al. (US 6,069,628) in view of Kitami (US 5,668,962) and further in view of Schindler (US 6,466,241) and further in view of England (US 6,144,991).

Claims 43 and 61: Farry, Kitami, and Schindler disclose a method and system for selectable commands for displaying user interface panels as in Claim 41 and 60 above however the references do not explicitly disclose a second user selectable command of the plurality of user selectable commands is configured to cease to be associated with

the favorite-link menu in response to a user selecting the second user-selectable command, such that the favorite-link menu when displayed does not contain the second user selectable command. England discloses a similar system that further discloses an identifier is automatically deleted by the system after it is selected by the user (column 22, lines 35-45). It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to delete an identifier of an item after automatically deleting that selected item. One would have been motivated to cause to provide this limitation to preserve screen real estate.

5. Claims 44 and 62 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Farry et al. (US 6,069,628) in view of Kitami (US 5,668,962) and further in view of Schindler (US 6,466,241) and further in view of Wishoff et al. (US 2002/0070978).

Claims 44 and 62: Farry, Kitami, and Schindler disclose a method and system for selectable commands for displaying user interface panels as in Claim 41 and 60 above however the references do not explicitly disclose a second user selectable command of the plurality of user selectable commands is configured to cease to be associated with the favorite-link menu in response to an application program to which the selected panel belongs being closed, such that the favorite-link menu when displayed does not contain the second selectable command. Wishoff discloses a similar system that further discloses items are deleted from an Open Apps menu as application programs are closed (page 6, paragraph 88). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having

ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to cease to associate a user selectable command upon the closing of an application in Farry. One would have been motivated to provide this limitation to preserve screen real estate.

6. Claims 45 and 63 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Farry et al. (US 6,069,628) in view of Kitami (US 5,668,962) and further in view of Schindler (US 6,466,241) and further in view of the article How to use the Group Policy Editor to change default systems settings by Helmig.

Claim 45 and 63: Farry, Kitami, and Schindler disclose a method and system for selectable commands for displaying user interface panels as in Claim 41 and 60 above however the references do not explicitly disclose a second user selectable command of the plurality of user selectable commands is configured to cease to be associated with the favorite-link menu in response to a computer system to which the graphical user interface belongs being shut down, such that the favorite-link menu when again displayed does not contain the second user-selectable command. Helmig discloses that a user may remove access to the shut down command shortcut from the task bar by using the Group Policy editor of windows (page 1). OFFICIAL NOTICE is taken that the computer prompts the user to reboot the computer in order for the 'shut down' shortcut to be removed. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to cease the association of a user selectable command from a favorite-link menu in response to a computer being shut

down in Farry. One would have been motivated to include this feature to preserve screen real estate.

Conclusion

7. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to OMAR ABDUL-ALI whose telephone number is (571)270-1694. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri(Alternate Fridays Off) 8:30 - 6:00 EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Stephen Hong can be reached on 571-272-4124. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

OAA
12/07/2008

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